

July 16, 2009



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Dear Friend,

This week – for the first time in history – our deficit surpassed one trillion dollars (read the *Washington Times* article [here](#)). This is a terrible foundation from which to rebuild our economy and it undermines our efforts to lessen the severity and duration of the current recession. Although the seeds of our budget crisis were planted long ago and cultivated by many Congresses and many Presidents who failed to make hard decisions with respect to the federal budget, this is no excuse for failing to address the issue now. We must look to a renewed future of economic strength and build the stepping stones to that future.

One way to do this is through the establishment of the Securing America's Future Economy (SAFE) Commission. Under H.R. 1557, a bi-partisan bill of which I am a co-sponsor, this Commission would develop legislation to address the unsustainable imbalance between long-term federal spending commitments and projected revenues, increases in net national savings to provide for domestic investment and economic growth, the implications of foreign ownership of federally issued debt instruments and revision of the budget process to place greater emphasis on long-term fiscal issues. Significantly, Congress would be required to vote on the Commission's legislative proposals. Congress would not be able to avoid the issue or leave it for the next generation to address.

The legislation has been referred to the House Committees on the Budget and the House Committee on Rules. It is my hope that the Committees will move this legislation forward expeditiously. For more information on the legislation, please click [here](#).

I appreciate hearing from you, so please do not hesitate to call my district office in Gold River at (916) 859-9906 or e-mail me using the webform online at <http://lungren.house.gov>.

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